

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 1-35 have been canceled. Claims 36-65 have been added to clarify some of the inventive aspects of the present application. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added. Claims 36-65 are now pending in the present application.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In Section 2 of the Final Office Action, Claim 6 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. While Applicant does not agree with the rejection, Claims 6 and 18 have been cancelled rendering this rejection moot.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-4, 11-14, 21, 23-26, and 32-35 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In Section 4 of the Final Office Action, Claims 1-4, 11-14, 21, 23-26, and 32-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,084,858 to Matthews et al. (Matthews), in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,912,702 to Verbiest (Verbiest), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,535,498 to Larsson et al. (Larsson). While Applicant does not agree with the rejection, Claims 1-4, 11-14, 21, 23-26, and 32-35 have been cancelled rendering this rejection moot.

III. Rejection of Claims 10 and 20 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In Section 5 of the Final Office Action, Claims 10 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matthews, in view of Verbiest, in view of Larsson, and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0043746 to Hiroyuki et al. (Hiroyuki). While Applicant does not agree with the rejection, Claims 10 and 20 have been cancelled rendering this rejection moot.

IV. Rejection of Claim 27 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In Section 6 of the Final Office Action, Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matthews, in view of Verbiest, in view of Larsson, and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0119538 to Momosaki et al. (Momosaki). While Applicant does not agree with the rejection, Claim 27 has been cancelled rendering this rejection moot.

V. No Rejection of Claims 5 and 15

The Examiner failed to provide a basis for rejecting Claims 5 and 15 or to indicate allowance of Claims 5 and 15. Applicant believes Claims 5 and 15 are in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, Applicant has elected to cancel Claims 5 and 15, at this time, reserving the right to pursue these claims in a continuing application.

VI. Allowance of Added Claims 36-65

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach, suggest, or disclose at least “wherein the calculated connectivity metric for a link of the plurality of links is determined based on the first type of node and the second type of node” as required in claims 36, 51, and 59. None of the references cited by the Examiner mention any consideration of a type of node in calculating a connectivity metric. Neither an anticipation rejection nor an obviousness rejection can be properly maintained where the reference(s) used in the rejection does not disclose all of the recited claim elements. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 36, 51, and 59. Because claims 37-50 depend from claim 36, claims 52-58 depend from claim 51, and claims 60-65 depend from claim 59, Applicant also respectfully requests of claims 37-50, 52-58, and 60-65. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 36-65.

Applicant believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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